



Department of Business Regulation

233 Richmond Street
Providence, RI 02903

Commercial Licensing Bulletin Number 2002-1

Automobile Body Repair Shops

Clarification of Requirements of R. I. Gen. Laws § 5-38-10(6)

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-38-10(6) a holder of an automobile body repair shop license ("Licensee") issued by the Department of Business Regulation ("Department") must surrender a vehicle to its owner upon tender of payment of the proper charges for towing and work done on that automobile. This statute does not reference costs for storage; therefore, storage costs should not be included in calculating "proper charges for towing and work done." This Bulletin does not abrogate any right to charge and collect storage fees as otherwise permitted by law or regulation. A Licensee that refuses to surrender a vehicle upon tender of payment for towing and work done may be subject to denial, suspension and/or revocation of the license pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-38-10.

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